

Miller Lodge I. C. O. F.
One South Washington Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-1
1879

One of Easton's symbolic buildings, the four story brick Odd Fellows Lodge is embellished with an eclectic combination of symbols and stylistic elements. The flat building has an irregular roof line with gables on the three major facades. A small tower-like gable marks the stair entrance to third floor lodge rooms. The high vaulted ceiling carried by high scissor trusses, covers a meeting room which is one of the most complete Victorian interiors in the town. Chartered in 1832, the lodge has met at this site since 1854.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

T 1
2100014610
Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Odd Fellows Hall

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

One South Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES RESTRICTED☐ YES UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☒ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ OTHER Fraternal**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

Organization

NAME

Miller Lodge I.O.O.F.Telephone #: 301-822-2565

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Mr. Samuel W. LeCompte

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.Talbot County Court HouseLiber #: 065Folio #: 475

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Town of Easton Survey by Paul Brinkman

DATE

August 28, 1967☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDSMaryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

T-1

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED slightly	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This building on the southwest corner of Dover and Washington Streets is five bays wide and six deep. Four stories in height, the designer of the brick lodge building used an eclectic combination of symbols and stylistic elements to express its ceremonial function as the meeting lodge of a fraternal order.

The first floor with its plate glass windows is used as a store. Second and third floors are rental offices. The fourth floor, with its tall windows and gables, houses the Fraternal rooms. The face brick is dark red; details are grey sandstone. Floor levels are marked by belt courses of stone; lintels and sills are stone as are most important symbols and details.

The flat building is enriched with an irregular roof line with gables on the three major facades. A small tower - like gable surmounted with a finial marks the stair to the lodge rooms. Its is subtly emphasized by a false chimney with a corbelled cap. This entrance is enclosed in a pointed arch opening emphasized by a flat stone hood bearing symbolic chain of three links. Novelty windows are used to emphasize the stair tower and create a hierarchy of floors. Therefore, on the second floor three small windows are used. On the third, taller double windows with one over one sashes are inset into a segmental arch opening. The fourth floor opening, filling the gable is tallest; its tripartite window fills a pointed arch opening.

Large decorative windows are centered in each remaining gable; each contains colored glass patterned with symbols of the fraternal order. The most important facade on Washington Street has pointed arch opening in which three-pointed arch openings are surmounted by circles. For greatest emphasis, the window is continued below the floor line, but it is blind, filled in with bricks. Above this window, the gable has three small window emphasized by bands of stone. There is a finial shaped like an open hand.

The north gable is much narrowed, resembling a pavillion. Similarly treated it has a smaller pointed window opening filled with colored, patterned glass in a quatrefoil motif. It is also extended with a blind window. The gable has a panel with a carved stone eye; it is emphasized with a false enclosed chimney with corbelled cap. Incipient gargoyles sprout from the stone weathering of the gables. The west gable window has three pointed-arch windows topped by circular window enclosed in a pointed arch opening.

Windows on second and third floors light offices and are therefore quite straight-forward; tall openings with one over one sashes and plain trim are placed more or less regularly, one per bay on both floors. They are closed with interior louvered blinds.

The lodge meeting room is decorated with a freedom and gaiety which reflects the spirited thinking of the late nineteenth century builders. Two huge sizzor trusses of massive, chamfered timbers support the tall vaulted roof. Their king and queen posts terminate in pendants and they are attached by immense ornamental brackets to the walls. In the early twentieth century, an elaborate embossed tin ceiling was installed; it covers the upper portion of the side walls. The lower walls are plaster in which a mural of marsh grasses has been impressed. Once polychromed, it has now been painted

(cont.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

T-1

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES	Dedicated on September 25, 1879	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Millers Lodge I.O.O.F.
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Odd Fellows Building is important to Easton both for its history and for its architecture. Since 1839 Miller Lodge, Number 18, has met at this location.

The building itself is one of the most imposing structures on Washington Street. Its height and solidity on the corner act as an appropriate foil for the Talbot County Court House across the street. It is one of the symbolic buildings along this main street which help explain the social life of the town.

Miller Lodge is the oldest in Talbot County. It was chartered July 29, 1832 and incorporated March 1, 1833 with forty-three members. Among them were Howes Goldsborough who was largely responsible for the construction of St. Peter and Pauls Catholic Church, Easton, and Maryland's Governor Philip Frances Thomas. The lodge met in "Washington Hall" opposite Port Street on Washington Street until 1839. Then it moved to the building that stood at Washington and Dover; this building was purchased in 1854 for \$2100.00, but it burned to the ground in the big fire of 1855. By the next year Miller Lodge had constructed another building but this one too burned, in a fire which broke out in Market Space on October 1, 1878. The present building was dedicated on September 25, 1879.

L65/F234

This property was bought by Margaret Goldsborough from John Bennett in 1853 for \$2000.00. The premises included at that time a three-story brick building carriage house and stable. She sold the parcel the following year, in 1854, to the Miller Lodge #78 of the I. O. O. F. for \$2100.00. The Odd Fellows Lodge had retained this corner to the present day.

L65/F475

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

T-1

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Records of Miller Lodge I.O.O.F.
Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY NA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

NA

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE None

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant Cynthia B. Ludlow, Research Historian

STREET & NUMBER Historic Easton, Incorporated
Box 1171

CITY OR TOWN

Easton

DATE

October 1, 1976

TELEPHONE Mr. Paul Parsons,
301-822-2706 President

STATE

Maryland 21601

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

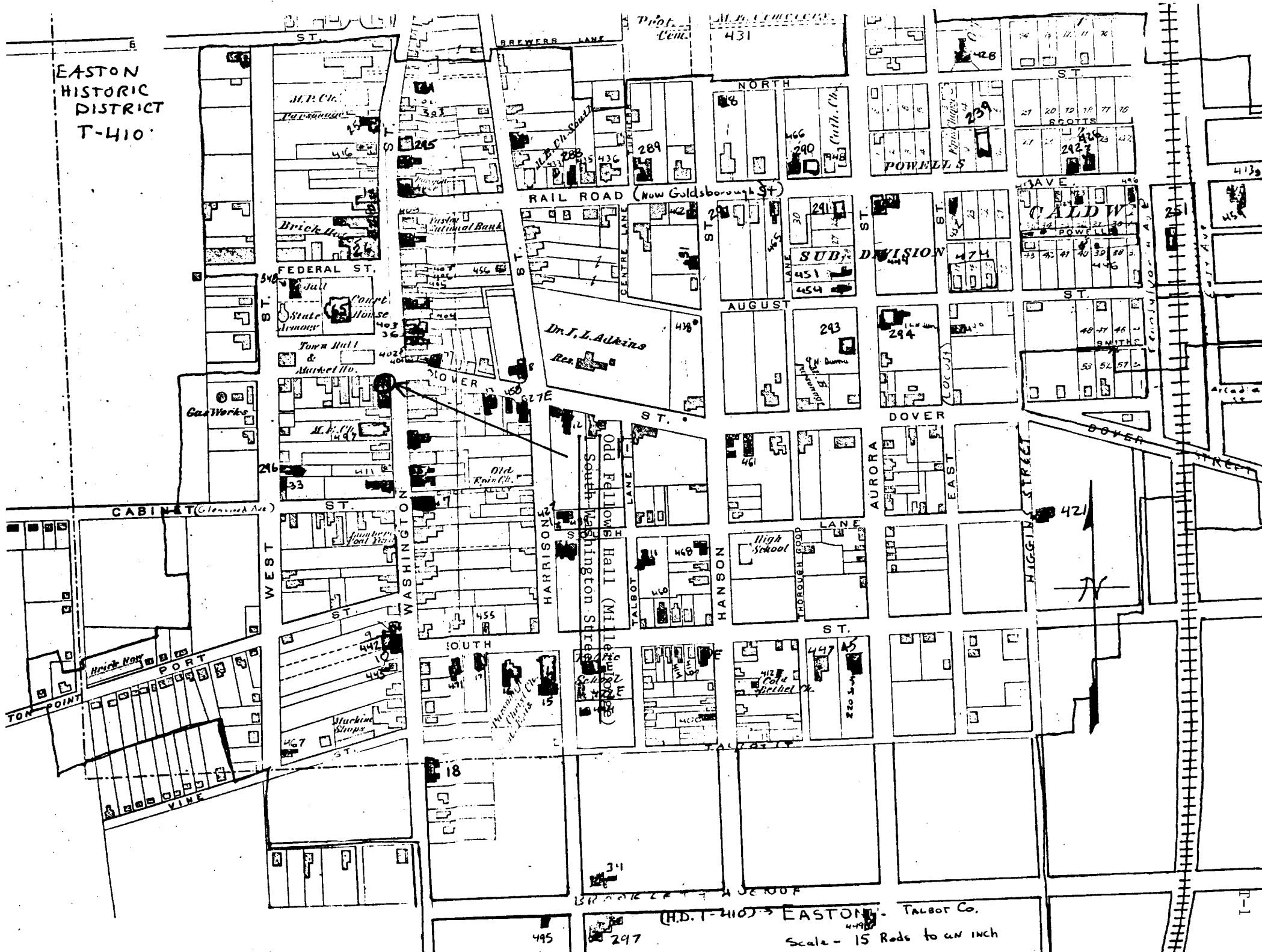
One South Washington Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

T 1
Town of Easton
Odd Fellows Hall

over. However, the room with its ceremonial furnishings and colored windows is one of the most complete and expressive Victorian interiors in the town.

The structure is carefully maintained, in remarkably original condition with the exception of the first floor. The store windows are much like those appearing in early photographs; however, the wide sign board covers belt courses and other stone details, disrupting the rythm and integrity of the facades.

EASTON
HISTORIC
DISTRICT
T-410

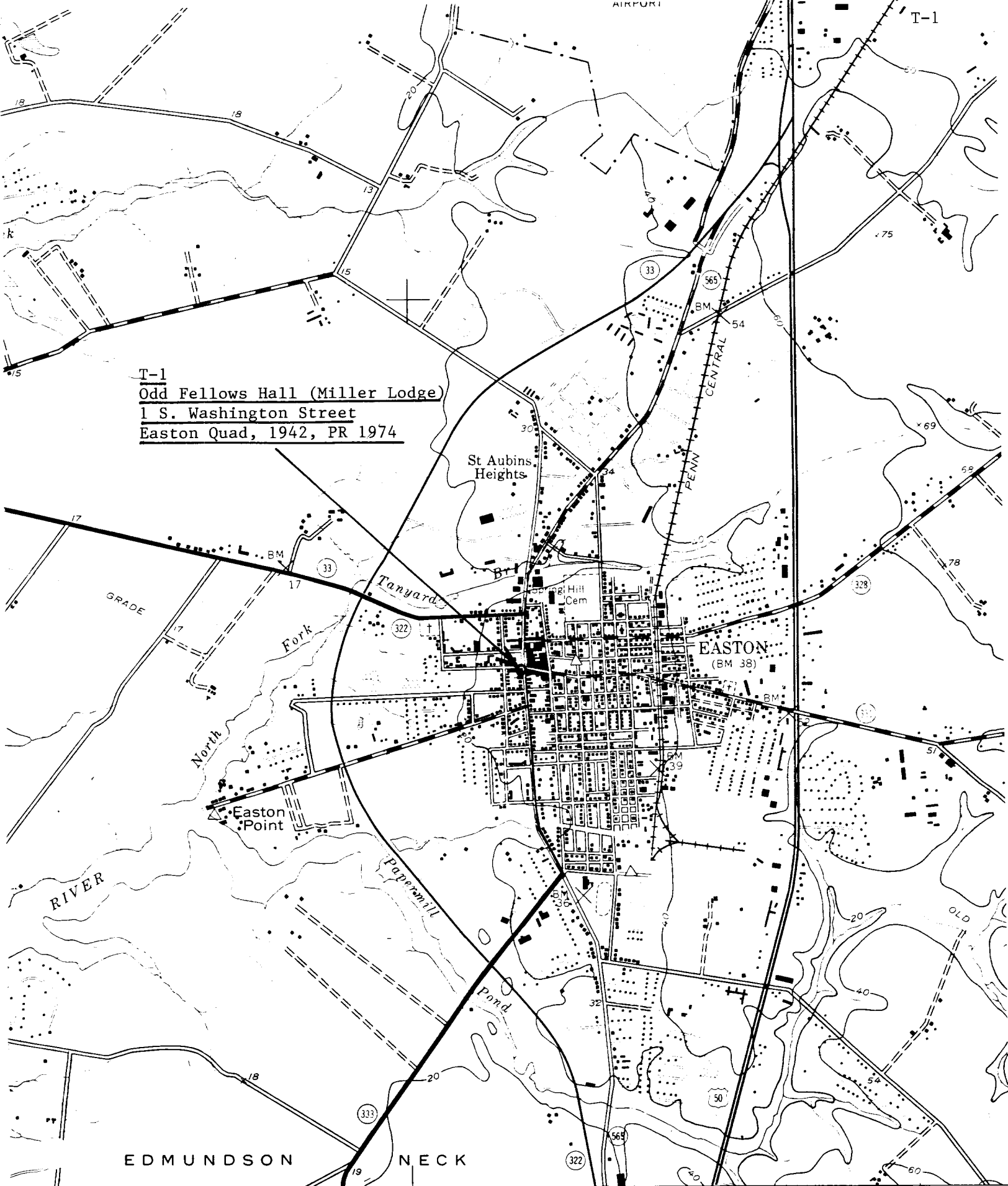


495

297

(H.D. T-410) EASTON, Talbot Co.
Scale - 15 Rods to an inch

T-1
Odd Fellows Hall (Miller Lodge)
1 S. Washington Street
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



EDMUNDSON

NECK

EASTON

(BM 38)

St Aubins
 Heights

Tanyard

Fork

North

Easton
 Point

RIVER

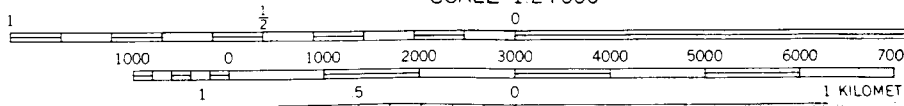
Papemill

Pond

OLD

vey

metric methods



ST. AUGUSTINE MI. TRAPPE 6.7 MI. (TRAPPE) 5761 II NE

SCALE 1:24,000



T-1

Odd Fellows Hall
(Matthew's Womens Apparel)



12 x 184

52% ~~50%~~ 1



DDO

1 DEVER WASHINGTON ST.

EASTON, MD.

EAST & ^{NORTH} ~~SOUTH~~ FACADES

AUGUST 1976

MLFRITZ

Old Fellows Hall

1 S. Washington St.

T-1

T-1